

DRPT continues to move rail and public transportation initiatives forward. During the second quarter, the rail line improvements between Richmond to Washington DC and the Charlottesville multi-modal transit facility construction projects began. DRPT continued administrative support to the Rail Commission and participation in the VTRANS 2025 Plan. These recommendations represent true multi-modal planning and vital policy-maker tools.

***DRPT Major Accomplishments:***

- ◆ **Rail Commission:** The *Commission on Rail Enhancement for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* provided recommendations on the future of rail transportation to the Governor December 1.
- ◆ **Freight Rail Projects:** Two Rail Industrial Access grants were awarded in September to construct additional track and stations for Coors Brewing Company – Rockingham County and MeadWestavaco – Pittsylvania County.
- ◆ **Passenger Rail Projects:** CSX and DRPT signed a Memorandum of Understanding which allows six key projects to progress. Construction on the first Washington-Richmond corridor project Arkendale Crossover began in November.
- ◆ **Passenger Rail Study:** DRPT held three regional meetings to discuss the initial findings of the Richmond/Hampton Roads Passenger Rail Study which evaluates the feasibility of higher speed passenger rail service between the two areas.
- ◆ **Public Transportation:** FY06 State Aid for Public Transportation Applications became available to current and potential grantees in November 2004. Grant requests are due to DRPT February 1, 2005.
- ◆ **Specialized Transportation:** DRPT received a “United We Ride” federal grant to inventory all specialized transportation services provided in the state and to improve coordination of those services.
- ◆ **National Conference:** DRPT, along with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and two national organizations sponsored the TRB 16<sup>th</sup> National Rural Public and Intercity Bus Transportation Conference held in Roanoke.

***Accomplishments through our Partners:***

- ◆ **New Transit Service:** VRTA transit service improvements include restructuring the Loudoun County Circulator transit system for the Leesburg government center; adding new service between Purcellville and the Fairfax County line; and adding free trolley service between the historic downtown district and the Leesburg Premium Outlets.
- ◆ **New Transit Transfers:** Four County Transit and Graham Transit joined West Virginia’s Bluefield Area Transit to launch “Four Seasons Connection” service that facilitates bus transfers within the three counties and into West Virginia.
- ◆ **New Transit Facility:** Charlottesville broke ground on a new \$9 million multi-modal transit facility in the heart of downtown to better serve the needs of Charlottesville Transit Service (CTS), taxi, paratransit, and JAUNT riders.
- ◆ **New Vehicles:** Thirty vehicles were purchased and delivered to approximately 23 grant recipients that transport the elderly and disabled.
- ◆ **Transit Awards:** RADAR (Roanoke) and Mountain Empire Older Citizens, Inc. received FTA Administrator Outstanding Public Service Awards.
- ◆ **Commuter Transportation Awards:** Association of Commuter Transportation (ACT) – Chesapeake Chapter Award recipients include: RideFinders’ “Get Aware of Your Air” campaign and “City of Richmond - Commuter Employee Trip Reduction Program”; Arlington Transportation Partners - residential outreach program; Loudoun County Transit – increased ridership results; Thomas Jefferson PDC - RideShare program.

DRPT is proud of the extensive awards earned by our partners this past quarter. Virginia programs swept all six Association for Commuter Transportation awards- competing against programs from West Virginia, Washington DC, and Maryland, and earned half of the FTA awards at the National Rural Public and Intercity Bus Transportation Conference. Congratulations!

*Karen J. Roe*

# Rail Project Status Summary

February 16, 2005

Project	Start Date	End Date	Est. Cost	Apprvd Budget	Actual Cost	Status	Results/ Comments
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## Northern Virginia District

VRE - Dispatch Consolidation	Sep 2003	Nov 2003	\$91K	\$91K	\$91K	<b>Project complete.</b> On schedule and on budget.	Misrouting of VRE trains reduced and average train speed increased.
VRE - L'Enfant Third Main	Jun 2002	May 2007	\$6.2M	TBD		Schedule provided by CSX.*	VRE can add one additional midday train.
VRE - SRO to RO Third Main	Jun 2002	Dec2006	\$5.9M	TBD		Schedule provided by CSX.*	VRE to add one Fred'burg and one Manassas train.
VRE - AF Interlocking	Jul 2000	Oct 2001	\$12.5M	\$13.2M	\$14.4M	<b>Completed On Schedule.</b> \$1.2M CSX cost overrun.	One midday VRE train. 47% decrease in delays.
VRE - Franconia Third Main	Jun 2002	Jul 2007	\$9.7M	TBD		Schedule provided by CSX.*	One additional VRE train to Fredericksburg.
VRE - Quantico Creek Bridge	Sep 2002	Dec 2006	\$21.1M	\$23.2M		<b>In Progress.</b> Construction underway.	Will eliminate only single track section in corridor. Project managed by VRE.

## Fredericksburg District

VRE - Arkendale Crossovers	Jun 2002	Nov 2005	\$5.6M	\$5.6M		<b>In Progress.</b> Project Agreement signed Oct. 6, 2004. Work began November 2004.*	VRE can add one additional midday train.
VRE - Fredericksburg Third Main	Jun 2002	Dec 2007	\$9.7M	TBD		CSX has agreed to reduce scope and budget.*	VRE to add one Fredericksburg and one Manassas train.

## Richmond District

Elmont Crossover	Jun 2002	Apr 2006	\$5.8M	TBD		Schedule provided by CSX.*	VRE to add one Fredericksburg and one Manassas train.
Richmond Area Improvements	Jan 2002	Dec 2006	\$12.0M	TBD		Prioritizing needs to develop scope, schedule and budget with CSX.	Reduce train travel time from Staples Mill to Main Street by 5 minutes.

## Passenger Rail Studies

TransDominion Express	Feb 2001		\$120.0M	\$9.3M		<b>Preliminary Studies Complete.</b> DRPT is exercising option to purchase a train from VRE.	DRPT Staff is reviewing alternatives for limited service initiation.
Southeast High Speed Rail Corridor EIS	Sep 2003	Jan 2006	\$1.5M	\$1.5M		<b>In Progress.</b> - Draft EIS due March 2005.	Study conducted by North Carolina DOT. Tier II EIS - Petersburg to Raleigh.
Richmond/ Hampton Roads Pass. Rail Study	Sep 2003	Dec 2005	\$1.56M	\$1.56M		Phase 1 and 2 <b>in progress.</b> Secured additional planning funds to complete DEIS.	Identify optimal passenger rail service for Hampton Roads region.

\* The total committed cost of these six projects is \$43 million.  
The completion of these projects will result in 4 additional roundtrip trains for VRE.